Your Name

Social/Critical Thinking

Date

Reading Reflection #1: Chapters 1 and 2

When I took this class I wasn't too sure what to expect. I'll be the first one to admit that I'm not the most avid reader and I haven't enjoyed reading any school textbook until I started reading this one. So, it was a really good refreshing read because I took a lot of good points from it that I will use in my everyday life. In the beginning of the chapter it talks a lot about our own personal goals. Why do we have goals? What do goals do for us? Most, if not all, of our behaviors in our everyday life is working toward some type of goal that we are trying to reach. The book asks a question that I'm sure millions of college students around the world ask themselves. "Why am I going to college?" I realized that I need to start setting goals for myself because if I just go to school and just pass by like I did in high school I would have no motivation.

So, my goal for every class is to get at least a B or higher. I recently discovered that I want to become an Elementary School Teacher. I continually ask myself why. Why do I want to do this? Why did I choose this career? Is this something I can see myself being happy about for the rest of my life? Sometimes my answers are yes and sometimes I do doubt myself. But learning about *WHY* you want to do something is incredibly important. Reading what the book says about our goals really opened my eyes to what I

want to do with myself, and how I want to be an active person in our community. Another good point that the book made about making goals is seeing your goal visually in your mind. For example, this really worked for me in Volleyball. I would visualize myself doing something and I would execute it most of the time.

One last point in chapter one that I want to touch basis on is creativity. Just like the Author said, I too thought that being creative meant being artistic. I always sucked at drawing and could never think of creative things to do if I was faced with some kind of art project, and I hated it. But the book says otherwise, and that isn't the only way someone can be creative. For example, I'm creative in my sport! I would think of new different ways to execute a certain play, or I would think of where I can serve the ball to the other side to whoever the weakest player was so I could win that point. All of the different strategies that I came up with was me being creative, and I never realized that until this exact moment! Ha!

Chapter two asks the readers what kind of thinkers we are. I never put much thought into what kind of thinker I am, because honestly, I never knew there was really any type of thinker except the smart and educated ones, or the not so smart ones. I believe at this point in my life I can best associate myself with the "Curious thinker." I say this because whenever there is a situation that either involves me or someone around me that I'm connected with, I like to get to the core of the problem. For example, I work with Special Ed students, so I work one on one or in a classroom and assist them with

everyday tasks. These kids are incredibly interesting to me, I love trying to see what their main issue is within themselves and help them solve a problem positively and efficiently.

One other point that chapter two discussed was what our beliefs are and what can influence us. Growing up, I was never surrounded by anyone religious, my family and I were never non-God believers but we just never went to church. As I went to high school I started being very open-minded to new ideas and to different views points to gain better insight. I started going to church with some new friends I made and I was around some of the best people that I've known. I found myself open to new ideas from other people that I probably never would have prior to getting into church. I realized that this proved that I can be open-minded to new ideas and different viewpoints.